ment is concerned, Rs. 19.80 crores have been provided to the West Bengal Government to construct West Bengal Government to construct 15000 wells. We have written to them but so far no information has been given whether they have constructed or they have not constructed. It shows that they are not interested in the scheme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now talk about Rajasthan, please. Why do you go to West Bengal?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I have given figures about Rajasthan also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is very simple. (*Interruptions*) You cannot interrupt his supplementary. He wanted to know whether for the wells which have been dug some pumpsets have been provided.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as this programme is concerned. there is no provision for providing pump-sets. But they can get pumpsets under IRDP.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that regarding pump-sets the Government of India have no information; that means that all pump-sets are working. When we go to blocks we get complaints from the agriculturists that some of the pump-sets are not functioning and there is no provision for workshops. So they are lying inoperative. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government of India have given any instructions to the States to have monitoring cells to see whether these pumpsets are functioning or not and whether there is any provision for workshops for repairing these pumpsets.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, the repairing of pumpsets and all *these things are State functions. If* the hon Member finds that there is any deficiency in the functioning she may kindly bring to it my notice and I will write to the State Government for effective implementation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Land reforms in the country

*163. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the seminar on Land reforms organised recently by the Planning Commission projected the existence of absentee landlordism in the country; and

(b) if so, what stringent measures Government propose to take to fully implement land reforms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Seminar on Land Reforms organised recently by the Planning Commission has noted to existence of absentee landlordism in some parts of the country where despite the formal ban on tenancy cultivation by leasing lands under concealed and informal tenancy arrangements continues to flourish.

(b) Land being a State subject under the Constitution, responsibility for enactment of land reform laws and their effective implementation rests with the State Governments.

However, the Progress of Implementation of land reform measures is reviewed by the Union Government at various levels from time to time and particularly in Revenue Ministers Conferences. The distribution of Surplus Ceiling Land is monitored under Twenty Point Program-

me. The consensus arrived at in the Revenue Ministers' Conferences contains specific recommendations on corrective measures required in the light of the deficiencies observed in the implementation of various land reforms programmes. This consensus is sent to State Governments for their consideration and suitable follow up action. States are also addressed sometimes on specific issues with request for necessary action.

The problem of absentee landlordism is related to the way the term 'personal cultivation' has been defined under the tenancy laws of the States. The subject has been discussed in the Revenue Ministers' Conferences which have in their consensus recommended a stricter definition of 'personal cultivation' to deal with it. States have also been advised to identify oral/informal tenants, bring them on record and confer ownership rights on them with a view to benefit actual tillers of the land.

It is for the States to take appropriate action in persuance of the recommendations contained in the Consensus.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, even after 25 years of implementation of the Land Reforms Act, absentee landlordism and conferring title deeds on the beneficiaries have not taken place in various States. Sir, the hon. Minister's reply is to the effect that it is the primary duty of the States to implement the land reforms law and the Central Government is only a monitoring authority. The first and foremost point in the new 20-point programme is land reforms. It will give the real benefit to the beneficiaries, the downtrodden, the poor agriculturists, the agricultureal labour, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In most of the States they have not implemented the Land Reforms Act in an effective manner. For the past several years the beneficiaries of land reforms have really not got the benefit according to the target fixed. I would take only a few seconds for the purpose of giving details. One lakh sixty-five thousand hectares of land could not be distributed because of litigation in courts and one lakh forty-five thousand hectares of land is not fit for cultivation and it is these lands which are not fit for cultivation which have been given to the beneficiaries. Under these circumstances it is not possible to implement land reforms effectively. Therefore, the Planning Commission organised a seminar in which it was decided that personal cultivation by the beneficiary is a must and protection to cutivating tenants must be given and that the benefit of benami should be removed. I would, therefore, like to ask the honourable Minister: As monitoring authorities what guidelines has the Central Government given to the State Governments for effective implementation of land reforms in this country?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: The honourable Member has expressed his concern. It is true that benami transactions and absentee landlordism are continuing in some States. Unfortunately, in spite of pointing out the deficiencies and loopholes in the State laws, some of the State Governments have not come out with any amendment to their State laws. For this recently a seminar was conducted by the Planning Commission. We called a meeting of all Revenue Secretaries on 14th June, 1989. I also addressed them bringing to their notice the deficiencies and loopholes found in the State laws and we requested the concerned State Governments to come out immediately with necessary amendments to their laws. As I said in my reply, implementation of land reforms is primarily and basically the duty of the State Governments. The objective of land reforms is to remove exploitation and increase agricultural exploitation. Unfortunately in some States it is not implemented effectively. But we have been bringing pressure on them to implement land reforms with political will.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: My second question is in the recent Revenue Ministers' Conference it was suggested that the ceiling should be reduced so that it will give benefit to the poor, to those who are below the poverty line and who are entitled to the benefit under the Land Reforms Act. Some of the States have reacted to it saying that they will not agree to reducing the ceiling, especially Andhra Pradesh and Haryana. They have said they will not reduce the ceiling. In view of this I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether the Central Government proposes to reduce the ceiling as compared to the ceiling fixed earlier so that the benefit really goes to the poor people. The second part of my supplementary is women are neglected at the time of giving benefits under the Land Reforms Act. It was suggested that 40 per cent of the benefit should go to women. Our Prime Minister is implementing a programme for the uplift of women. There are welfare measures for women. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Central Government is giving guidelines to State Governments for giving the benefit of the Land Reforms Act to women also, equal benefit as is given to men.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as the first part of the question is concerned, the land declared surplus was 72.83 lakh acres and the total land distributed so far is 45.73 lakh acres. The total land locked up in litigation is 13.13 lakh acres. Sir, we have been able to, that means the State Governments have been able to give to the extent of 14.91 lakh acres to the Scheduled Castes. To the Scheduled Tribes, the extent of land that was given so far is 5.82 lakh acres. The total number of persons benefited under the surplus land distribution scheme is 29.39 lakh. Sir, so far as the proposal that 40 per cent of the pattas should be given or land should be distributed to women is concerned, the proposal has been sent to the State Governments as it is a State subject. We have advised them to go in for that. It is the commitment of the Central Government. But we cannot force the State Governments. It is for the State Governments to implement it. They can go for that, and we have already advised the State Governments. And we are appealing to all the State Governments from the floor of the House that at least 40 per cent of the land should be given to women.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : मैं, माननीय मंत्री से, जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस संगोष्ठी मंत्री जी ने चर्चा की है, उसमें जमीन के बटवारे के अलावा जो गैर-उपजाऊ जमीन, है, उसको उपजाऊ करने, शोर-जमीन को उपजाऊ करने, उबड़-खाबड़ जमीन को समतल करने पर भी कोई चर्चा हुई है ?

मैं मंत्री जी से यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि जमींदारी का खात्मा किन-किन राज्यों में अभी तक नहीं हुआ और हर राज्य की अधिकतर सीमा और कम से कम सीमा क्या है, इसे राज्यवार बता देंगे ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, it is true that in some States the Zamindari system has not been abolished. As I stated, conferring the ownership on the tenants is one of the major components of land reforms. Unfortunately, in some States even the share cropper and tenancy system is continuing. Some States are calling themselves progressive States, like West Bengal. They were not able to give the land, the ownership to the share croppers or the tenants whereas in Karnataka, during the Congress rule ownership has been given... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: He does not know anything about West Bengal.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: What is this, Sir? He is exhibiting his ignorance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How did West Bengal come into the picture?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I am saying as to what is the commitment of some of the States towards land reforms... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Balanandan.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Sir, in reply to part (b) of the question, the reply given by the Minister is that the consensus arrived at in the Revenue Ministers' Conference contained specific recommendations on the corrective measures required in the light of the deficiencies observed in the implementation of various land reform programmes. Will the Minister kindly place before the House the recommendations that are given to the States on the basis of this discussion? Secondly, Sir, land reforms question is the basic question of development of the nation. We know the history that year after year tall talk of land reforms is made but in many States, I must say, the States where Congress (I) is ruling like Bihar, etc., land reforms are not seriously being implemented and the surplus land is not being distributed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question to the Government of India?

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Sir, he is talking about West Bengal. I do not want to say anything else. What is the monitoring from the Centre to see that land reforms are effectively implemented in the States? If specific recommendations are now given, let me have those recommendations so that I can understand the problem properly.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: The recommendation that was suggested by the Revenue Ministers' Conference was conferring ownership rights on rural landless poor living in the houses built on the land of others or on Government lands and allotment of house sites to them. Then distribution of surplus ceiling land at present locked up in litigation and here I may say that as I stated earlier 13.13 lakh acres of land is locked up in litigation, whereas an innovative scheme has been brought out in Madhya Pradesh as per which when the land is locked up in litigation that land could be distributed to the landless people by giving them the land and if the landlord subsequently succeeds in litigation in the court then compensation could be given to him and the land would not be given. That is the novel thing that has been brought out.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: What is the recommendation, say in terms of one, two and three etc.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I am coming to that. Some of the recommendations are, verification regarding possession of lands allotted to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, bringing formal or oral tenants and sharecroppers on record, and then identifying benami and farzi transactions in land under ceiling laws, and reservation for women in future allotment of land. These are some of the recommendations. We have a long list but I have given you the important ones.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आप अनेक महत्वपूर्ण पदों पर रहने के साथ-साथ मध्य प्रदेश में राजस्व मंत्री भी रह चुके हैं और मैं सोचता हूं आपका अनुभव होगा कि गांवों में जो जागीरदार हैं, जो गांवों के पटेल हैं वे अपने हरवाहों या नौकरों के नाम पर औपचारिक रूप से भूमि आवंटित करते समय उनके नाम लिखवा तो देते हैं परन्तु वे जागीरदार, जमींदार और पटेल लाभ स्वयं उठाते हैं । माननीय, भूमि-सुधार कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत अधिकतम सीमा से अधिक भूमि वितरण का काम किया जा रहा है, तो मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि भूमि का वितरण जितना आवश्यक है उससे महत्वपूर्ण चीज यह है कि भूमि पर अधिकार दिलाया जाए और अकसर यह देखने में आया है कि भूमि का वितरण कई सोसायटीज के नाम पर कुछ

पेशेवर लोग करा लेते हैं लेकिन अधिकार जिनके नाम पर होना चाहिए उनको अधिकार नहीं मिल पाता है । जब पुलिस को सहायता के लिये एप्रोच की जाती है तब पुलिस या तो कहती है कि हमारे पास ऐसी ज्यादा फोर्स नहीं है इसलिए हम इसमें नहीं पड़ेंगे या ऐसे लोग होते हैं जो इन-फलूएंशल होते हैं, क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से भूमि सुधार कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत ऐसी पहल की जायेगी कि मालिकाना हक देने के लिये विशेष सैल की स्थापना की जाए ? दूसरा पार्ट मेरे प्रश्न का यह है कि मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में मध्य प्रदेश का जिक्र किया तो मैं उनसे जानना चाहूंगा कि भूमि सुधार कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश में कितनी भूमि आवंटित की गई और आवंटन के साथ-साथ कितने लोगों को भूमि का मालिकाना हक दिया गया ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, so far as the second part of the question is concerned, I do not have the information but if the hon. Member wants it, I will get it from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and supply it to him. So far as the second part of the question is concerned, benami transactions, absentee landlordism, all these things have been noted by the seminar and also in the conference of Revenue Ministers. That is why before finalising the Plan these suggestions will be considered by the Planning Commission. That has been stated on the floor of Parliament also by the Planning Minister that all these points will be taken note of. That is why, Sir, the suggestions made by the Hon. Member are relevant and if in the State Legislatures all these amendments could be brought in with a view to bringing about all these changes which have been suggested by the hon. Member, there would be effective implementation of the land reforms. Not only that. If the landlords are not staying on land and if they are allowing somebody else to use the land and then getting the benefit, if all these things are changed, then there will be effective land reforms in the country. All the State Governments should take a note of it and implement it with political will.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: In part (a) of the answer it has been said that absentee landlordism in some parts of the country still continues to exist. It is highly regrettable that this situation still continues. I would like to know from the Minister as to what he means by 'in some parts of the country'. My information is that the worst defaulters are the Congress-ruled States. In any case, I want the facts and figures State-wise from the Minister on the absentee landlordism in each State, information about share cropping information about surplus land in each State and also identification of oral and informal tenants to be conferred the ownership rights. I want information on these five items State-wise from the hon. Minister so that we know which State has done well and which State is a defaulter State. As I have already stated, as I am informed, the worst defaulters are the Congress-ruled States. Let the Minister give us these figures.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I am sorry I am not in a position to submit the information to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You require notice.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Yes, I require notice. And I have already asked my department to get this information State-wise.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Abolition of zamindari as also the implementation of land reforms is a national commitment. But, perhaps, because of lackadaisical and half-hearted implementation by the States, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has ever considered bringing the question of land reforms, as distinguished from other matters concerning land, in the Union List. And also

besides the question of informal absentee landlordism, one very glaring fact which stares at our face very mockingly is that even in those cases where facts are known matters are still pending in the courts despite decision of the highest court, because some vested interests somewhere ensure that land is not given to persons in whose favour there is the decision. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in this context whether in the conference of the judges, maybe in the conference of Chief Justices, this point has been taken up and if so, what has been the discussion thereon.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I share the hon. Member's concern for these tenants and this unfortunate lot who have been toiling in the country for their living for years. So far as the lands which have been conferred on them even after courts decisions, are concerned, it has been brought to the notice of the Government that these tenants have been forcibly evicted and they are prevented from entering the land. We have taken up this matter in the Revenue Secretaries meeting and earlier in the Revenue Ministers meeting and not only that, wherever we go, we appeal to the State Government to be very strict in these matters and ensure that due protection is given to these tenants and to persons who have been toiling in the land for years together. Unfortunately, some people are still aggrieved and protection has not been given to them. As I stated, it is a commitment of the nation, it is the will of the nation that we must give land to people who have been tilling the land for decades and it is for the State Government to implement it vigorously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you considering bringing land reforms on the Union List?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: You know it is a federal structure; it is in the State List.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He knows it. But are you considering?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: There is no such proposal at present.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It is a fact today that only an insignificant fraction of the land which was estimated to be surplus and available by various committees, has been vested with the States. I mention here the committee headed by Dr. Mahalanobis Only an insignificant portion of the land which was to be declared as surplus has so far been vested in the State. May I know from the hon. Minister the reasons for this? As a matter of fact, according to some, only one per cent, less than one per cent, of the total cultivable land in the country has so far been vested in the Government and this has also not been distributed among the landless and the poor peasants. Does the Government propose to have a monitoring team, particularly, consisting of Members of Parliament and other experts on the subject? If not, why?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: This is a suggestion for action and I have noted it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, my question has not been answered. It is very important. I have said that several committees including the Planning Commission at various stages...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody knows it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He should understand what he has to reply.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: He does not understand.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Various committees including the Planning Commission...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question was simple. Your question was whether the Government would consider appointing a committee consisting of Members of Parliament and other experts.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That was one part.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That was the operative part.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That was one part. Another part was, various committees including the Planning Commission...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He knows it. Everybody knows it. Every Member knows it. It is a statement of fact. (*Interruptions*) Put your question. He can answer only questions.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I would like to know whether it is a fact...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There have been several committees. You know it. He knows it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He should say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, do you know that there have been many committees...

AN HON. MEMBER: He wants another committee to be appointed.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He referred to the monitoring aspect of the twenty-point programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You restrict yourself to your supplementary. You do not open up everything.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He has not answered the first part of my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 164.

Loans for housing development in Madhya Pradesh

*164. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Housing Development Finance Corporation has not disposed of the loans for Madhya Pradesh for housing development, so far;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount given to Madhya Pradesh during 1989-90 for housing development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Housing Development Finance Corporation does not allocate funds State-wise but sanctions as many eligible loan applications as applied for and which conform to their norms. The loans sanctioned by the Indore Branch since inception amount to Rs. 7.27 crores.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) The Indore Branch of HDFC during the first quarter of 1989-90 has sanctioned loans amounting to Rs. 3.72 crores for construction of 550 housing units.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या हाउसिंग डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी ऋण की व्यवस्था करता है ? साथ ही एच० डी०एफ०सी० द्वारा दिए जाने वाले ऋणों की क्या शर्तें हैं ?

श्री दलबीर सिंह : सर, एच०डी०एफ० सी० ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी लोन देता है। दूसरा जो सवाल है कि इसकी शर्तें क्या हैं, तो पहले तो एच०डी०एफ०सी० यह देखती है कि जो कोई भी इन्डीविजुअल लोन चाहता है तो उसके पास क्या अचल सम्पत्ति है और यदि कोई नौकरी करता है, वाईफ या हसबैंड, तो उनकी क्या री पे करने की केपेसिटी है ? तो इस तरह से उसकी जो नार्म्स हैं, वह बराबर दोनों को देखती है और सभी नार्म्स तय कर लेती है और उनको कर्ज देती है। जहां तक ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लिए बूत है, तो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को कोई बंधन नहीं है, एच०डी०एफ०सी० के द्वारा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को भी ऋण दिया जाता है।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : मान्यवर, मंत्री जी ने जो नार्म्स बताई के उसअनुसार तो